

system. The head when opened, instead of presenting a distinct brain or cephalic ganglia, only contained a small quantity of an amorphous and liquid pulp. In the thorax also, the large nerves passing into the femora could not be detected. M. Graells of Madrid was likewise unable to discover any traces either of ganglia or nerves.

M. Léon Dufour states that the tracheæ are not plentiful, so that the respiration cannot be very energetic, and the locomotive power of the animal is therefore small. In the structure of the alimentary organs, the *Nemoptera* differs from the *Panorpidæ*, in which family it has usually been placed, and M. Léon Dufour thinks that its food is of a fluid nature.—*Comptes Rendus*, Dec. 31, 1855, p. 1204.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR FEB. 1856.

*Chiswick*.—February 1. Light clouds : frosty. 2. Cloudy. 3. Frosty : fine throughout. 4. Overcast : slight rain. 5. Very fine : boisterous at night. 6. Densely clouded : boisterous. 7. Uniformly overcast : rain. 8. Densely overcast : fine : cloudy. 9. Exceedingly fine. 10. Cloudy. 11. Foggy : rain : overcast. 12. Rain : fine : rain at night. 13. Rain : showery throughout. 14. Rain : fine. 15. Cloudy : very fine : foggy at night. 16. Foggy : very fine : foggy. 17. Hazy : overcast : foggy at night. 18. Overcast : slight snow. 19. Hazy : cold and raw. 20. Cloudy and cold throughout. 21. Slight rain : small hail occasionally. 22. Overcast : slight rain. 23. Fine throughout : cloudy at night. 24. Fine : overcast : clear and frosty. 25. Overcast throughout. 26. Cloudy : slight rain. 27. Overcast. 28. Very slight drizzle : overcast : cloudy. 29. Foggy : cloudy : frosty.

Mean temperature of the month .....	41°·54
Mean temperature of Feb. 1855 .....	28·01
Mean temperature of Feb. for the last thirty years .....	38·71
Average amount of rain in Feb. ....	1·543 inch.

*Boston*.—Feb. 1—3. Fine. 4, 5. Cloudy. 6. Rain A.M. and P.M. 7, 8. Cloudy : rain A.M. 9. Cloudy. 10. Cloudy : rain A.M. 11. Cloudy : rain P.M. 12. Rain A.M. 13. Cloudy : rain P.M. 14, 15. Fine. 16—22. Cloudy. 23, 24. Fine. 25—28. Cloudy. 29. Foggy.

*Sandwick Manse, Orkney*.—Feb. 1. Cloudy A.M. : showers, thaw P.M. 2. Cloudy A.M. : fine P.M. 3. Fine, bright A.M. : fine, clear P.M. 4. Fine, cloudy A.M. : fine, clear P.M. 5. Fine, drops A.M. : fine, cloudy P.M. 6. Bright A.M. : rain P.M. 7. Bright A.M. : showers P.M. 8. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 9. Drops A.M. : clear P.M. 10. Bright A.M. : clear, showers P.M. 11. Bright A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 12. Rain A.M. : showers P.M. 13. Bright A.M. : cloudy P.M. 14. Snow-showers A.M. : showers P.M. 15. Rain A.M. : cloudy P.M. 16. Drizzle, showers A.M. : drizzle P.M. 17. Damp A.M. and P.M. 18. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 19. Cloudy, frost A.M. : clear, fine P.M. 20. Bright A.M. : cloudy, fine P.M. 21. Bright A.M. : clear P.M. 22. Bright A.M. : showers, clear P.M. 23. Bright A.M. : cloudy P.M. 24. Cloudy A.M. : clear P.M. 25. Rain A.M. : showers, clear, aurora P.M. 26. Cloudy A.M. : drizzle P.M. 27. Showers A.M. : fine, cloudy P.M. 28. Drizzle A.M. : damp P.M. 29. Cloudy A.M. and P.M.

Mean temperature of Feb. for previous twenty-nine years ...	38°·01
Mean temperature of this month .....	40·84
Mean temperature of Feb. 1855 .....	31·64
Average quantity of rain in Feb. for fifteen previous years ...	3·25 inches.

The storm which raged so violently in the South of Scotland on the 6th and 7th did not reach Orkney or the North of Scotland, but again we had this month as well as during the gale of last month a great fall of the barometer, which stood at 28·49 on the 6th at midnight.